This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A file handling system, comprising:

a terminating file transfer computer having a processor, the terminating file computer operable to receive a file transfer message from an originating file transfer computer along with at least one file, the file transfer message including details about the transfer of the at least one file including a ~~local~~ user and at least one filename for the at least one file, the terminating file transfer computer in response to receiving the file transfer message, executing an agent;

the agent operable to read the file transfer message received from the originating file transfer computer, and direct the transfer of the at least one filename and the at least one file associated with the at least one filename to a home directory of the terminating file transfer computer, the home directory associated with the ~~local~~ user in accordance with instructions from a configuration file residing in the home directory; and

the configuration file residing in the home directory, and operable to instruct the agent ~~to~~, after saving the at least one file to the home directory, to transfer the at least one file from the home directory to a remote <u>terminal</u> computer <u>of the user</u> specified in the configuration file, wherein the configuration file comprises a host name and a port name of the remote<u> terminal</u> computer thereby allowing transfer of the at least one file to the remote <u>terminal</u> computer without necessitating the remote <u>terminal</u> computer being logged on the terminating file transfer computer.

2-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the agent is further operable to transmit the at least one file to the remote <u>terminal</u> computer.

6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 5, wherein the agent is further operable to delete the at least one file from the home directory in accordance with the configuration file.

7. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the terminating file transfer computer comprises a Connect:Direct server.

8. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising:
a port monitor at the remote ~~terminal~~ computer operable to monitor communications to the remote ~~terminal~~ computer on a port specified by the configuration file.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising means for monitoring a port of the remote ~~terminal~~ computer for communications from the agent.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of handling files on a computer, comprising:
receiving a file transfer message from an originating file transfer computer at a terminating file transfer computer;
in response to receiving the file transfer message, executing an agent;
determining, by the agent, a home directory of the terminating file transfer computer from a ~~local~~ user associated with the file transfer message;
storing at least one file associated with the file transfer message in the home directory;
retrieving, by the agent, a configuration file from the home directory, wherein the configuration file comprises a host name and a port name of a remote ~~terminal~~ computer of the user, the configuration file instructing the agent to, after saving the at least one file to the home directory, transfer the at least one file from the home directory to the remote ~~terminal~~ computer specified in the configuration file; and
transmitting, via the agent, the at least one file responsive to the configuration file to the remote ~~terminal~~ computer without necessitating the remote terminal computer being logged on the terminating file transfer computer.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the method further comprises:

responsive to the configuration file, removing the message from the home directory.

12-13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising using an agent program to direct the transfer of the at least one file to the home directory.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, using a Connect:Direct server to receive the file transfer message.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

monitoring a port at the remote terminal computer specified by the configuration file.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising:

receiving the at least one file at the port specified by the configuration file.

19. (Currently Amended) A Connect:Direct file handling system, comprising:

a terminating file transfer computer having a processor;

an agent; and

a configuration file;

the terminating file transfer computer launching the agent upon receipt of a file transfer message, the file transfer message comprising a local username and at least one filename, and the agent directing the transfer of and storage of at least one file associated with the filename to a home directory of the terminating file transfer computer associated with the username, the agent reading the configuration file, and transferring the at least one file from the home directory to a remote terminal computer

specified by the configuration file without necessitating the remote <u>terminal</u> computer being logged on the terminating file computer, wherein the configuration file instructs the agent to, after saving the at least one file to the home directory, transfer the at least one file from the home directory to the remote <u>terminal</u> computer specified in the configuration file and to store a host name and a port number associated with the remote <u>terminal</u> computer.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 19, wherein the agent is operable to remove the at least one file from the home directory after transferring the at least one file to the remote <u>terminal</u> computer.

22. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 19, further comprising:
a port monitor at a remote <u>terminal</u> computer, the port monitor being operable to monitor a port specified in the configuration file<u>.</u>

23. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 22, further comprising:
a file processor located at the remote <u>terminal</u> computer, the file processor being operable to receive files via the port monitor, and assign the at least one filename to the at least one file received, respectively.

24. (Currently Amended) A computer diskette having a program for handling files on a computer, wherein the computer diskette is a physical structure executed by the computer and the program is operable to perform:
receiving a file transfer message from an originating file transfer computer at a terminating file transfer computer;
in response to receiving the file transfer message, executing an agent;
determining, by the agent, a home directory of the terminating file transfer computer from a ~~local~~ user associated with the file transfer message;
storing at least one file associated with the file transfer message in the home

directory;

retrieving, by the agent, a configuration file from the home directory, wherein the configuration file comprises a host name and a port name of a remote <u>terminal</u> computer <u>of the user</u> and instructions for the agent to, after saving the at least one file to the home directory, transfer the at least one file from the home directory to the remote <u>terminal</u> computer specified in the configuration file; and

transmitting, via the agent, the at least one file responsive to the configuration file to the remote <u>terminal</u> computer without necessitating the remote <u>terminal</u> computer being logged on the terminating file transfer computer.

25. (Previously Presented) The computer diskette of claim 24, the program further operable to perform:

responsive to the configuration file, removing the message from the home directory.

26-28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously Presented) The computer diskette of claim 24, the program further operable to perform using an agent program to transmit the at least one file responsive to the configuration file

30. (Previously Presented) The computer diskette of claim 29, the program further operable to perform using a Connect:Direct server to receive the file transfer message.

31. (Currently Amended) The computer diskette of claim 24, the program further operable to perform:

monitoring a port at ~~a~~ <u>the</u> remote <u>terminal</u> computer specified by the configuration file.

32. (Previously Presented) The computer diskette of claim 31, the program further operable to perform:

receiving the at least one file at the port specified by the configuration file.